

HORROR OF HORRORS THE HUN ATROCITIES.

Bringing The War A Little Nearer To Us—"A Young Nurse Who Lived Near Mexico, Mo.," A French Woman's Story.

Madame Guerin, an accredited representative of the French Government, gave an address in Kansas City recently, which was referred to as follows by the Kansas City Journal:

Children Slaves Of Hun.

"In Northern France, 2,000 towns and 750 cities have been so completely demolished that they have literally vanished from the face of the earth," she said. "The inhabitants have been forced into hopeless slavery by hun taskmasters. These poor villagers, after three years of forced labor in Germany, are now sent back to France. Over 200,000 of these refugees have been sent thru Switzerland, after their bodies have been wrecked by the Germans. One-tenth of the horrible experiences have not been told. Thousands of these people are dying of tuberculosis, having on the bodies the scars where German surgeons have inoculated them with the disease. They are worked without proper food until the disease is in its last stages, then, when death is certain, they are sent back to France to die, and perhaps spread death.

"Thanks to the American Red Cross, these cases are being handled in concentration camps and infection does not spread. In the ranks of these returning are mutilated women and girls of 13 and 14 years, who have been made the playthings of huns, inoculated with horrible diseases, and sent home, never to smile again, but die in agony.

"For years France has borne this, almost alone. Now the Americans are there fighting shoulder to shoulder with the French. We are so proud of these splendid fellows who dig in with one hand, fight with the other, and smile all the time. Our boys are cheered by their presence, and together they will fight, and so long as such men live, the Germans shall not pass."

"I will bring the war just a little nearer home to you tonight," she said. "I have here a letter from Jefferson City, telling of a young nurse who lived near Mexico, Mo., who went to the front with the Red Cross last year. She was missing for a long time and could not be located. Last week a cable was received at her home, asking that someone meet her at the New York landing. They found her, but, oh, God, what did they find. She had been a prisoner, the plaything of German Officers, and when she was about to become a mother, they cut off her hands, split her tongue, and sent her back to France."

"This is only one tale of horror for you, but in France we have them by the thousands. Such brutality will not frighten the Americans out of the war, but instead will place a hate in the heart that only German blood can wash out. Your boys will fight, and with each bayonet thrust they will realize that they are fighting for the honor of their mothers, wives, sisters and sweethearts, and to avenge beastly, accursed actions that only a hun beast can tolerate."

Several weeks ago the attention of the Message was called to the case referred to above by Madame Guerin. The facts told us are substantially as given by the French lecturer. A lady living in Indiana whose sister resides in St. Louis, saw two nurses, returned from Europe, who had undergone just such indignities and mutilation. In the statement as it reached his office, a sister of the injured nurse lives in this section of Missouri, not far from Mexico, in adjoining county. However, the case is so distressing that the family who has to bear the grief and horror of such an atrocity will be kindly shielded by every true-hearted American.

The student who enters the Chillicothe Business College this month has a two months' advantage over the September student—two months sooner at work, two months more salary and two extra months more line of promotion.

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The real economy, every dollar saved you by this sale can be applied to patriotic requirements.

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Mexico, Missouri

MRS. LESLIE FERRIS.

Mrs. Leslie Ferris died early Sunday morning from a stroke of paralysis. She had been in failing health for a number of years.

Mrs. Ferris was a native of Kentucky. Her maiden name was Mattie Garrard. The family moved to Centralia, Mo., just after the close of the Civil War. Her father owned the farm on which the famous battle of Centralia was fought, between the Federals and Confederates. Forty years ago Mattie Garrard was married to Leslie Ferris. Since her marriage she and husband had made their home in Mexico. They had one child who died a few years ago.

At the time of Mrs. Ferris's death Mr. Ferris was at McArthur, Ohio, on business. He arrived here Tuesday. The funeral was at the home Wednesday morning, conducted by Rev. A. A. Wallace.

Besides the husband, Mrs. Ferris is survived, only, by the following near relatives: Ethan Howell, Hardin, Montana; Henry Howell, Powell, Wyoming; C. G. and A. A. Wyatt, St. Joseph, Mo.; Lucile and Helen Howell, Mexico, Mo., and Jennie Wood, of Chicago.

Mrs. Ferris was a fine Christian woman. The community will miss her.

CHAMP CHIMES.

There is much complaint being made in some sections of the grasshoppers. They have not caused any trouble around here, tho cow-fles and candidates are awfully bad.

Our Stamp drive was a rather a tame affair, and left us \$1,200 short of the top. The most contemptible slacker of all is the fellow with a big farm and plenty of means who tries to keep Uncle Sam off of him by purchasing one Stamp. Such fellows ought to be sent to the trenches without ceremony.

The worst storm known in this section for years struck us last Thursday afternoon. Corn, oats and gardens were badly damaged. Many window panes were broken by the hail, and many trees were blown down. John Harding's barn was demolished, and Jim Crockett's silo was blown down. Some fields of oats were so completely destroyed that no attempt will be made to do anything with them. Great numbers of young chickens killed or drowned.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Dicus were seen out joyriding the other day. Mrs. Dicus was in the buggy driving with the auto tied on behind, with Elmer riding in it, wearing that smile that won't come off.

Ira Mayes of Molino had 30 head of yearling cattle on the St. Louis market this week.

A CARD.

From H. P. Warden, Candidate For Probate Judge.

To My Friends and Fellow Citizens of Audrain County:

It has been and now is my great desire to see personally each and every voter, prior to the Democratic primary election, August 6th. Many of you know, however, that my interests are on a farm near Mexico. You know how busy the farmers are this season and the great importance and duty of saving our crops and the scarcity of reliable help. I am not yet thru with my harvest. The threshing season is nearly here and with my only son in the army it falls heavily on the older fellows. If under these circumstances I am unable to call on you personally, I trust you will excuse the failure and that you will give me the same fair consideration as if I had made the personal call. As to my qualifications for this important office, would be glad to have any of you consult your county officials, or the good citizens at your County Seat who have known me near thirty years, and if they do not testify with practical unanimity as to my qualifications for this office, I pledge myself to resign as a candidate.

In conclusion I wish to express my

deep gratitude to my friends who gave me such splendid support four years ago when I was a candidate for this office, and to assure them that I now have many kind supporters and friends who did not support me before, and that with the renewed help of my old friends at the coming election I feel confident of success.

Very respectfully,
H. P. WARDEN.

Mr. Roadoverseer, fix the roads. The farmers are demanding it.

Children's Day at Mt. Zion church at Molino Sunday night was a great success—an enjoyable program, which The Message received too late for publication this week.

Mrs. Jas. H. Brown of Laddonia, was in Mexico Monday with her company, Dr. E. L. Foster and wife, and children, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Stayley and children all of Denver, Colo., here in auto, visiting relatives and friends in this county. They all formerly lived in Laddonia.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Vedder are here from Newport News. The soldier boys come back on furlough. Corporal Vedder helped the Molino Red Cross by making a telling speech at the recent entertainment.

SKINNER.

These spare moments Monday I will tell about Thursday's storm.

Rains of the past week have done much toward making a big crop of corn; the corn crop is the cleanest in many years and these rains have helped to spoil promised nubbins. Not all the wheat in the shock, yet. Upwest of here a sprinkle of wheat remains untouched tho it remains standing fine. The hail did not come that way; hence crops did not suffer.

The big rain of Thursday last was the largest in seasons—in fact, the largest we recall falling in so short a time—over 3 inches. Fields washed considerable, some corn washed up; oats generally laid pretty flat; corn blown over; wheat stood erect after the rain and wind. Grass needed rain and is brightening up like springtime, gardens also. The hail was from one mile west of here clear on into Mexico and beyond. Many estimate that one-third the oats were beaten out of the head and lie prostrate on the ground. Corn blades beaten into ribbons, gardens here were beaten up some; beans, peas, cabbage, tomatoes, suffering most. It seems the hail got a little worse from here on to Thompson. The beauty part is that the rain came at such an opportune time, making chaffinches to sing sweeter and made beautiful halos of the morning, and all creation smiling, donning their best, most glad appearance when 'twas over. Oats are straightening and corn looking better; wheat in the shock. Sunshine fills the earth with glory, making rainbow for the storm, greenness for the moss, saffron for the clouds, crystal for the billows; streams to glitter, seas to chant and springs to blossom sweeter.

Children's Day at Mt. Zion, we hear was just fine. These are always great days for the children.

Red Cross Play given Friday at Rowena was greatly interfered with by the rain. However \$106.00 was taken in. The play will be given again there this Monday night. Home talent presents it and in good style. These people are alive to every good cause.

Ice cream supper at Long Branch Saturday was also interfered with by the rain. No doubt it will be given again. Watch for date.

Among those selling fat hogs to Joseph Considine we mention Wm. Ichn, 5; Mrs. Murphy, 14; Wm. Wisdom, 25; average 200 lbs; and brought \$15.75 per cwt.

Error last week on price of Chas. F. Meyers' cattle. Instead of \$14.00 per cwt. they brot \$15.00. Chas was

pleased and they made a handsome profit—nearly \$3000.00 for the feed he put into them. They cost him \$1400 just a few months back and netted him \$4200 on market in St. Louis.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. I. Neale entertained at dinner Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Wilfley, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Stevers, Mrs. Neale and son, Forest, and the writer.

W. S. S. meeting at Gatewood was well attended. Every man in the district, except three, and many of the ladies were present and gave what they so desired to give, or rather, loan, the Government what they thought they could spare. Many will buy more before Dec. 31, '18, so they signified. F. L. McGee and wife subscribed the most, \$700; others ranging down to \$20. Our quota was \$2800, but we raised \$3615.

O. T. Ellis lost a valuable mare Thursday night from colic, having got into the oat bin and eaten too many shelled oats.

Mrs. Belle Camplin of Moberly is visiting J. W. Holloway and family.

Mrs. Bettie Pickett and her son, Estell and wife of Columbia are here the guests of Mesdames DeJarnatt and Spurling.

Mr. and Mrs. Carson Blanton visited home folks in Centralia from Friday to Sunday.

Dayton Haney purchased an 8-16 horse power gas tractor, with a three gang plow. He will do his first job of breaking for Elmer Chapman for wheat, 90 acres, at \$2.00 per acre. The outfit cost him \$1275.00 and freight. It's an Avery tractor.

Plenty news but oats are crying for attention, we desist and close.

CORPORAL GRAFFORD OVER.

Overtook His Company Tho He Was Hindered From Sailing Over With The Boys—His Comrades.

Corn Hill Camp, Winchester, Eng. Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Grafford have a letter from Corporal James Grafford, England, which we give to you. Jim was prevented by sickness from sailing with his company but we are glad to note that he has caught up with the company, for it is the 139th Infantry of which he was a member here in camp.

With The Colors, England, June 2, 1918.—Dear Mother, Just a line to let you know that I am well and am feeling fine and dandy.

This is a pretty country and we like it fine. Everything is green and this is some fine climate here.

We are getting plenty to eat and have a fine place to sleep.

Now, mother, don't be disappointed if you do not get any long letters from me, as we are allowed to write so very much. But will write you every chance I get and every day when possible. You do the same so each of will get our mail with some degree of regularity.

Thinking I have told you about all that I can now I close with love. Your son, James, Grafford. Hdq. Co. 139th U. S. Infantry, American Expeditionary Forces.

Mrs. Charles Buckner, teacher of Bookkeeping and Stenography at McMillan High School, has resigned. She has an offer in another school, tho she may take a Government position.

The Red Cross ladies have charge of the program for Independence Day at Laddonia this year. They promise a great time to all who attend.

REDENBAUGH-DAHLEM.

Miss Ollie Dahlem, the charming daughter of Mrs. J. R. Dahlem of Mexico, surprised her friends Sunday by being joined in marriage to Mr. Charles Redenbaugh of Rosedale, Kansas. The wedding was at the bride's home, Rev. H. P. Atkins officiating. Mrs. Redenbaugh was previously secretary of the Mexico Transfer Co. She is a lovable young woman. Mr. Redenbaugh is a reliable young man and has a fine business position at Rosedale. Our best wishes extended the happy couple.

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